

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1, 4, and 7 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Wirz (US 5,479,856) in view of Mohr (US 4,427,766). Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Wirz in view of Mohr as applied to claims 1, 4, and 7 to 9, and further in view of Tomita (US 2002/0062748). Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Wirz in view of Mohr as applied to claims 1, 4, and 7 to 9, and further in view of Boardman (US 6,824,882).

Claims 10 to 17 have been canceled without prejudice.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

#### **35 U.S.C. 103 Rejections**

Claims 1, 4, and 7 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Wirz (US 5,479,856) in view of Mohr (US 4,427,766). Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Wirz in view of Mohr as applied to claims 1, 4, and 7 to 9, and further in view of Tomita (US 2002/0062748). Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Wirz in view of Mohr as applied to claims 1, 4, and 7 to 9, and further in view of Boardman (US 6,824,882).

Wirz discloses blanket cylinder/ plate cylinder pairs with impression cylinders 3, 4.

Claim 1 recites a print substrate-contacting element comprising:

a microstructured carrier having a surface; and

an ink-repellent coating on the surface of the microstructured carrier, the ink-repellent coating including a derivative of an amphiphilic organic compound having a polar region with an acidic character.

There is absolutely no teaching or disclosure in Wirz that the impression cylinders have “a microstructured carrier” or “an ink repellent coating.”

Moreover, Mohr is for a printing plate and states that the form prepared according to Example 26 has similar properties to polyvinylphosphonic acid, but does not disclose the acid in Example 26 and refers to a German patent. A copy of the German patent and its US equivalent (U.S. Patent No. 3,276,868 are submitted herewith. The phosphonic acid layer referred to by the German patent is an intermediate layer (see claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 3,276,868) and also only

for a printing plate.

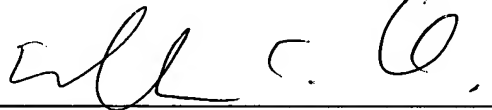
It is respectfully submitted that one of skill in the art would not have used printing plate teachings for the impression cylinder of Wirz, since the impression cylinder of Wirz does not provide any image.

Withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1 to 9 is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

The present application is respectfully submitted as being in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,  
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